

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

obtaining quality of service (QoS) data related to information flow through a data communications network;

receiving input data from an application;

5 producing impaired data from the input data, the impaired data being impaired to a level corresponding to the QoS data; and

providing the impaired data to the application.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the data communications network is a wireless network.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the QoS data includes information indicative of a distribution of throughput.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the QoS data includes information indicative of a time correlation of throughput.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the QoS data includes information empirically determined.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the QoS data includes information modeled from empirically determined data.
7. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the QoS data includes information indicative of a distribution of throughput.
8. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the impaired data includes intentionally corrupted data packets.
9. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the impaired data includes intentionally lost data packets.
10. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the impaired data includes randomly impaired data packets.
11. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein providing the impaired data includes intentionally delaying data packets.
12. The method as claimed in claim 1 further including receiving information indicative of a sequence of movements through the data communications network, the information indicative of a sequence of movements through the data communications network being used to access corresponding QoS data.

13. The method as claimed in claim 1 further including receiving information indicative of user input to the application, the information indicative of user input to the application being used to produce the impaired data.

13. The method as claimed in claim 1 further including receiving information indicative of user input to the application, the information indicative of user input to the application being used to produce the impaired data.